

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

The Employment Development Department's Labor Market Information Division (LMID) regularly collects, analyzes, and publishes information about California's labor market, which has approximately 1,068,000 employers covered for Unemployment Insurance and a civilian labor force of approximately 16.6 million. In addition to employment and unemployment data, LMID provides economic development and planning information; industry and occupational characteristics, trends, and wage information; and social and demographic information. Most of these data are available for the state and counties. Some data are available for other geographic regions as well.

In addition to basic labor market information, the LMID provides technical assistance, training seminars for data users, and standard and customized reports for state and sub-state geographic areas. Labor market information is available electronically and in print.

Background

The Social Security Act of 1935 established the basis for state Unemployment Insurance programs and created the Covered Employment and Wage program (ES 202) to collect and analyze the employment, wages, and contributions data that employers submit quarterly. The ES 202 program currently is the most complete census of employment and wage information by industry and area.

Because there was a need for more timely employment trend data, the federal government initiated the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program to collect employment and payroll data from a sample of the nation's employers. In California, the CES program surveys approximately 38,600 employers each month. Once a year, the ES 202 and CES employment data are benchmarked to ensure consistency.

Sources of Information

LMID uses a variety of data sources to develop California's labor market statistics, including:

- A monthly survey of about 4,000 agricultural employers for agricultural employment and wage data.
- A monthly survey of approximately 4,100 California households (the Current Population Survey).
- A monthly survey of employers to generate nonfarm employment data by industry (the CES program).
- Census, demographic, and labor force data.
- Employment and wage data from the Unemployment Insurance tax system (ES 202).
- Local Area Unemployment Statistics program data.
- Local occupational and wage data for 38 regions (the California Cooperative Occupational Information System).
- Mass Layoff Statistics program data.
- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projections.
- An occupational staffing pattern and wage survey of about 110,000 employers over a 3-year cycle for all industries (the Occupational Employment Statistics Survey).

Types of Labor Market Information Available

The data from these sources are used by public and private sector organizations and by LMID's staff to study the labor force and develop:

- Earnings for selected industries.
- Emerging occupation and industry studies.
- Estimates of the current labor force and industry employment.
- Historical employment and unemployment data.
- Immigration-related studies.
- Industry growth and trends.
- Legislative analysis.
- Nondiscrimination information for employer compliance purposes.

- Occupation job descriptions; wage data; training, education, skill, and licensing requirements.
- Planning information used by EDD field offices and Local Workforce Investment Boards (geographic areas with similar labor market needs designated within the state).
- Projections of employment for occupations and industries by geographic area.
- Special industry studies covering areas such as agriculture, health care, electronics, and aerospace.

Uses of Labor Market Information

State and local labor market information is used extensively in both the public sector (by schools, libraries, public programs, government, etc.) and in the private sector (by business, finance, economic development, research, etc.) for:

- Business and financial forecasting.
- Economic development and human resource planning.
- Geographic planning for industry and business expansion.
- Local labor market research.
- Monitoring labor force, industry, and economic trends.
- Occupational skills and qualifications identification.
- Planning and development of training programs.
- Public policy development.
- Public services program development and administration.
- Real estate investment evaluation.
- Strategic and long-term planning.
- Wage and compensation administration.

How to Obtain Labor Market Information

- To obtain a publication or specific data, contact the Labor Market Information Division at **(916) 262-2162**.
- To view approximately 3,400 text, data, and PDF files using a personal computer, access LMID's home page on the Internet. The address is **www.calmis.ca.gov**.
- For frequently asked questions about LMI, access **www.calmis.ca.gov/file/resource/FreqQues.htm**.
- For career information and links to training and job listings, access California Career & Training Information System (CaCTIS) at **www.cactis.ca.gov**.
- For economic development tools, access LMI for Economic Development (LMI4ED) at **www.lmi4ed.ca.gov**.
- For information on local labor market information products, or assistance on the use of those products, contact LMID's local labor market consultants. Located in key cities throughout California, they can provide analysis of employment and economic trends, and are available to make presentations on a variety of labor market information subjects. To obtain the phone number of the labor market consultant for a specific area of the state, see our Web site at: **www.calmis.ca.gov/file/resource/analyst.htm** or call **(916) 262-2162**.

General Information

If you would like more information about the labor market information services above, or information about other available products or services, please write or call:

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For additional information on other EDD programs and services, visit EDD's Web site at **www.edd.ca.gov**.